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PATENT  
Attorney Docket No. 81724

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of: )  
)  
LADDVANH BOUPHAVICHITH ET AL. )  
)  
Serial No.: Unassigned )  
)  
Filed: Herewith )  
)  
For: DEVICE FOR EXTERNALLY )  
RETAINING A GASTROSTOMY )  
FEEDING TUBE AGAINST A )  
PATIENT AND METHOD OF )  
USING SAID DEVICE )

Group Art Unit: Unknown

Examiner: Unknown



Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

In accordance with the provisions of 37 C.F.R. 1.56, 1.97 and 1.98, Applicants disclose the following information:

1. U.S. Patent No. 5,358,488, inventor Surlyapa, issued October 25, 1994;
2. U.S. Patent No. 5,167,627, inventors Clegg et al., issued December 1, 1992;
3. U.S. Patent No. 5,158,569, inventors Strickland et al., issued October 27, 1992;
4. U.S. Patent No. 5,112,310, inventor Grobe, issued May 12, 1992;
5. U.S. Patent No. 4,834,712, inventors Quinn et al., issued May 30, 1989; and
6. U.S. Patent No. 4,774,944, inventor Mischinski, issued October 4, 1988.

Copies of the foregoing documents are provided with this paper. In addition, these documents are listed on the enclosed PTO Form FB-A820. Applicants respectfully request that the

Examiner consider the enclosed documents and evidence that consideration by making appropriate notations on the enclosed form.

This submission does not represent that a search has been made or that no better prior art exists and does not constitute an admission that the enclosed documents constitute "prior art."

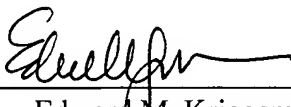
Applicants reserve the right to take appropriate action to establish the patentability of the disclosed invention over the enclosed documents, should the documents be applied against the claims of the present invention.

If there are any fees due in connection with the filing of this paper that are not accounted for, the Examiner is authorized to charge the fees to our Deposit Account No. 11-1755. If a fee is

required for an extension of time under 37 C.F.R. 1.136 that is not accounted for already, such an extension of time is requested and the fee should also be charged to our Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,

Kriegsman & Kriegsman

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Dated: December 24, 2001

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231 on \_\_\_\_\_.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Edward M. Kriegsman  
Reg. No. 33,529  
Dated: \_\_\_\_\_